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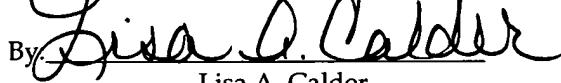
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Appn. No. : 09/896,692  
 Applicant: AGRAWAL  
 Filed : June 29, 2001  
 TC/A.U. : 1635  
 Examiner : Jane J. Zara  
 Docket No : 47508.556 (HYZ-069CN2)  
 Customer No : 23483  
 For : *Novel HIV-Specific Synthetic Oligonucleotides and Methods of Their Use*

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

Date:

February 2, 2004By: 

Lisa A. Calder

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Sir:

Applicants submit the following Response under 37 C.F.R. §1.111 in response to the outstanding, non-final Office Action dated October 2, 2003. The time for responding to this action has been extended to February 2, 2003 by the accompanying Petition for a One Month Extension of Time and payment of fee.

Please amend the application as provided below.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 7 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 12 of this paper.